

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**1-4. (Cancelled)**

**5. (Currently amended)** A method for demineralizing condensate in a nuclear power plant by using a condensate demineralizer comprising a mixed bed of a strongly acidic gel-type cation exchange resin and a uniform particle size strongly basic porous anion exchange resin,

said method comprising:

passing the condensate through the mixed bed, wherein the mixed bed is regenerated when the ion exchange resins of the mixed bed are consumed to a certain extent, and the regeneration comprises at least one of the following steps (i) and (ii);~~any of the following steps~~

~~(i) (iii);~~

(i) separating the cation exchange resin from the anion exchange resin, and subjecting only the cation exchange resin to air scrubbing; and

~~— (ii) transferring a slurry comprising the resins of the mixed bed between demineralization columns and regeneration columns at a decreased slurry concentration; and~~

~~(iii) (ii)~~ filling a tank for receiving the resins with water prior to transferring the resins to the tank.

**6. (Previously presented)** The method according to Claim 5, wherein the anion exchange resin has an average particle size of 500-1000  $\mu\text{m}$  and a particle size distribution in which 95% or more of resin particles are within the range of the average particle size  $\pm 100 \mu\text{m}$ .

**7. (Currently amended)** A method for regenerating a mixed bed of a strongly acidic gel-type cation exchange resin and a uniform particle size strongly basic porous anion exchange resin, for use in a condensate demineralizer of a nuclear power plant,

said method comprising at least one of the following steps (i) and (ii);

~~said method comprising any of the following steps (i) (iii);~~

(i) separating the cation exchange resin from the anion exchange resin, and subjecting only the cation exchange resin to air scrubbing; and

~~(ii) transferring a slurry comprising the resins of the mixed bed between demineralization columns and regeneration columns at a decreased slurry concentration; and~~

~~(iii)~~ (ii) filling a tank for receiving the resins with water prior to transferring the resins to the tank.

**8. (Previously presented)** The method according to claim 7, wherein the anion exchange resin has an average particle size of 500-1000  $\mu\text{m}$  and a particle size distribution in which 95% or more of resin particles are within the range of the average particle size  $\pm 100 \mu\text{m}$ .